



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 313**

February Session, 2002

Substitute House Bill No. 5255

*House of Representatives, April 4, 2002*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. O'ROURKE of the 32nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT RESTORING THE RIGHT TO BECOME AN ELECTOR TO PERSONS CONVICTED OF A FELONY BEFORE 2002 BUT NEVER COMMITTED TO CONFINEMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The right to become an  
2      elector is restored to any person who was convicted of a felony before  
3      January 1, 2002, and for such felony was never (1) committed to the  
4      custody of the Commissioner of Correction for confinement in a  
5      correctional institution or facility or a community residence, (2)  
6      committed to confinement in a federal correctional institution or  
7      facility, or (3) committed to the custody of the chief correctional official  
8      of any other state or a county of any other state for confinement in a  
9      correctional institution or facility or a community residence in such  
10     state or county.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
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**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

<b>Fund-Type</b>	<b>Agency Affected</b>
GF - None	Secretary of the State
GF - None	Correction, Dept.

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill restores the right to vote to people who were convicted of, but not incarcerated for, a felony before January 1, 2002.

This bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Correction.

It is expected that the Office of the Secretary of the State will be able to reprint voter registration applications within existing budgetary resources.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5255

***AN ACT RESTORING THE RIGHT TO BECOME AN ELECTOR TO PERSONS CONVICTED OF A FELONY BEFORE 2002 BUT NEVER COMMITTED TO CONFINEMENT*****SUMMARY:**

This bill restores the right to vote to people who were convicted of, but not incarcerated for, a felony before January 1, 2002. Currently, these probationers cannot have their voting rights restored until after they complete probation.

Felons placed on probation on and after January 1, 2002 do not lose their voting rights. PA 01-11, which became effective on January 1, 2002, limited felons' disenfranchisement to the period of their incarceration.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16      Nay 4